

Peking Crowd Cheers Execution of 'U.S. Spy'

HONG KONG (UPI)—A man accused of being an American spy was publicly executed before 10,000 cheering Red Chinese, radio Peking reported today. Four other alleged U.S. spies were sentenced to long prison terms—three of them for life.

The latest in a series of public executions, some of them televised, came as Premier Chou En-lai said the main opposition to Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-tung "has crumbled" and the situation in China "has never been so good as it is today."

Others Get Long Terms

Chou said support for President Liu Shao-chi, Mao's bitterest enemy in the cultural revolution power struggle, is dwindling and that the Red Army is solidly behind Mao.

The latest execution, the 10th

announced in less than a month, took place in Peking, the broadcast said. The man was identified as Li Fang-chen.

The three men sentenced to life as American spies were identified as Lin Yu-feng, Li Chia-yin and Pai Yung-shih. A fourth also accused of spying, Fu Tsai-ti, was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

At least 12 other men, accused of counterrevolutionary crimes, were given long prison terms, the broadcast said.

Despite Chou's glowing report

on the status of the country, observers said that the fact Mao has been holding public trials and executions as warnings to anti-Maoists indicates the situation is not as rosy as the premier would have people believe.

Chou Speaks at Banquet

Chou, the broadcast said, spoke last night at a banquet in honor of an Albanian delegation visiting Peking in connection with the Oct. 1 celebrations observing the 18th anniversary of the Communist nation.

He said power is now in the hands of Maoists "in those places and units where such power needs to be seized."

"At present, our great proletarian cultural revolution is developing on a still broader and more intensive scale," he said. "The situation has never been so good as it is today. The bourgeoisie headquarters led by China's Khrushchev has crumbled."

This was a reference to Liu and other top party and government officials now in disgrace as Mao's opponents.